

REMARKS AND ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 to 18 are currently pending in the application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 1 to 9.

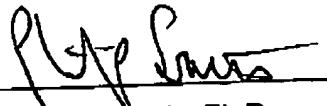
Claims 10-18 are rejected by the Examiner for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, and merely to expedite allowance of the application, Applicants hereby cancel claims 10-18. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in additional applications.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants submit herewith a clean set of claims. It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for an early allowance.

If any further extension of time is necessary, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby petitioned for such an extension and may charge any necessary fees to our Deposit Account no. 501644.

If any further fee, whatsoever, with respect to the present application is due, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is in any event hereby authorized to charge such further amount to our Deposit Account no. 501644.

Respectfully submitted,



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